



State of California • Environmental Protection Agency  
Integrated Waste Management Board

## VENTURA COUNTY RECYCLING MARKET DEVELOPMENT ZONE



### ZONE INFORMATION

The entire County of Ventura (population 720,000) is designated a Recycling Market Development Zone. It consists of 1,198,779 acres, including 15,000 acres of industrially zoned land, and it overlaps a Foreign Trade Zone. Ventura County has a deepwater port, a dependable labor supply, affordable land and lease rates, uncrowded freeways, and an infrastructure geared to handle planned growth. The county is also adjacent to Los Angeles, providing access to large urban markets as well as sources of materials for manufacturing.

### PROGRAM INFORMATION

California Recycling Market Development Zones are designated by the Integrated Waste Management Board. The Board offers low-interest loans up to \$1 million, technical assistance on financing strategies, and assistance in marketing zones nationally and internationally. For more information on this program and other market development programs, contact the Board's Recycling Business Assistance Branch at (916) 255-1000.

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### TARGET MATERIALS

In addition to the county's need for increased recycling of mixed paper and plastics, special opportunities exist for the recycling of yard debris, tires, agricultural film plastics, and construction and demolition debris.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

Roadway transportation in the zone includes Highways 101, 23, 26, 33, 34, 126, 150, and 118. Interstate 5 is nearby, and Highway 118 connects easily to California's Central Valley. The Southern Pacific rail line is a major east/west rail corridor, and the deepwater Port of Hueneme can be accessed by road or rail. There are small airports in Camarillo, Oxnard, and Santa Paula, and the Point Mugu Naval Air Station may be converted to joint commercial use. Recycling infrastructure includes two large material recovery facilities and a network of smaller ones located throughout the county.

### INCENTIVES

In addition to assisting companies in obtaining low-interest, long-term, fixed-rate loans offered through the RMDZ program, Ventura County RMDZ staff can assist companies with financing strategies that include other loans and grants. Regional venture capital forums, in coordination with Southern California Edison and California Lutheran University, can also be potential funding sources.

RMDZ staff can also provide assistance with obtaining permits, siting, and acquisition of materials for manufacturing. Additionally, through Ventura County's Workforce Development Division employers are offered free personnel services, including employee recruitment and screening, on-the-job training, and customized training. Up to half the salary of eligible employees can be reimbursed to employers during an agreed-upon training period. There are also sheltered workshops, job coaching programs, and other opportunities for subsidized labor in Ventura County.

Another incentive is discounted power. Southern California Edison's special economic development rates for power are designed to help companies locate, expand, or retain their operations in Ventura County. Five years of discounts, up to 25 percent, are available to manufacturers with 200-4000 kW of demand.

The Ventura County RMDZ also overlaps another zone. Port Hueneme, the only deepwater port between San Francisco and Los Angeles, is a Foreign Trade Zone. It provides duty reductions, deferrals, inversions, and other benefits to importers, exporters, and certain product assemblers. Other sites in Ventura County offer additional benefits. The Thousand Oaks Environmental Business Cluster is a business incubator that provides low-cost office space, equipment, and other resources to developing companies. The Energy Technology Engineering Center provides Cooperative Research and Development Agreements in association with the U.S. Department of Energy.

Tax reductions are also possible. A tax credit of 6 percent of the cost of machinery and equipment used to make products can be used to offset a company's State taxes through the State Manufacturers' Investment Tax Credit. Additionally, up to \$17,500 per year can be deducted from gross revenues for federal income tax.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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